Message Text

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P 211908Z SEP 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EIND, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET COPYRIGHTS

- 1. NEW YORK TIMES AND WASHINGTON POST HAVE ARTICLES IN SEPTEMBER 21 ISSUES CONCERNING ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORMATION OF A STATE COPYRIGHT AGENCY (ALL-UNION COPYRIGHT AGENCY) TO ACT AS A CLEARING HOUSE FOR PUBLISHING SOVIET WORKS ABROAD OR FOREIGN WORKS IN SOVIET UNION.
- 2. EARLIER WE LEARNED FROM MEZH-KNIGA REPRESENTATIVE AT SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON YURIY MELNIK QUOTE, ALL-UNION COPYRIGHT AGENCY (VSESOYUNOYE AGENTSTVO AVTORSKIKH PRAVE) WILL BEGIN OPERATION JANUARY 1, 1974, AND WILL BE CONCERNED WITH WHOLE SET OF COPYRIGHT PROBLEMS INCLUDING PROBLEMS ON THE PUBLICATION OF SOVIET PRINTED WORKS ABROAD AND FOREIGN WORKS IN THE USSR. HE ALSO SAID MEZH-KNIGA WOULD CARRY OUT THESE FUNCTIONS UNTIL END OF THIS YEAR WHEN ALL-UNION COPYRIGHT AGENCY WILL BEGIN OPERATING. UNQUOTE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. ACTION REQUESTED: BECAUSE OF WIDESPREAD INTEREST OF US PUBLISHERS AND PUBLIC, INCLUDING NUMEROUS TELEPHONE CALLS TO DEPARTMENT TODAY ON THIS SUBJECT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST, TEXT OF ANY OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMENTS EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON NEW COPYRIGHT AGENCY. RUSH

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